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## **News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## State Auditor Crouch Announces Indiana's 23rd Consecutive Achievement Award

STATEHOUSE – State Auditor Suzanne Crouch is pleased to announce that for the twenty-third consecutive year, the State of Indiana has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for Indiana's 2015 comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR).

"The Certificate of Achievement was created by the GFOA to encourage governments to go beyond minimum requirements and prepare reports that embody the spirit of openness and full disclosure," said Auditor Crouch. "This award represents the dedication and commitment Indiana has to embracing 21st Century government principles of financial transparency, accountability, efficiency and participation. Ensuring Hoosiers have accurate and easily accessible information regarding their tax dollars is vital."

Each CAFR is reviewed using a checklist designed to determine compliance with both generally accepted accounting principles and program policy as established by the GFOA's Special Review Executive Committee and the GFOA Executive Board. Reviews are performed by GFOA staff and members of the GFOA's Special Review Committee comprised of individuals from government, the public accounting profession and academia who possess specialized expertise in governmental financial reporting.

"Indiana's CAFR has a direct impact on our state's credit rating and fiscal outlook, which in turn affect our job creation and business development," Auditor Crouch said. "The award is a great honor, and I sincerely thank all those in my office and every state agency who made it possible."

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals with offices in Chicago, IL and Washington, D.C.

-30-

Elected in 2014 as Indiana's 56th State Auditor, Suzanne Crouch serves as the state's Chief Financial Officer and the administrator of the <u>Indiana Transparency Portal</u>. Prior to becoming State Auditor, Crouch served eight years as the State Representative for House District 78 in Evansville.

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